

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-3, 6-20, and 22-25 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 15 are independent claims. Claims 1-3, 6-20, and 22-25 depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim or 15.

Claim Amendments

Independent claims 1 and 15 have been amended by way of this reply to more precisely claim the present invention. Support for the amendments to claims 1 and 15 can be found, for example, in Figure 1 and in paragraphs [0026] - [0030] of the publication of the Specification. In addition, these amendments do not raise new issues or require new search, or at least simplify issues for appeal. Accordingly, entry and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-3, 6, 7, 12, and 15-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,402,052 ("Murawa") in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,267,856 ("Kwok"). Independent claims 1 and 15 have been amended by way of this reply as explained above. To the extent that this rejection may still apply to the amended claims, the rejection is respectfully traversed for at least the reasons set forth below.

One or more embodiments of the present invention are directed to a nozzle of a washing system for a vehicle. With reference to Figure 1, for example, the nozzle 10 has the valve 30 and two inlets 18 and 20. According to the position of the valve 30 in the cut-out 38, liquid flow from the input 26 to the inlet 20 or the inlet 18 is blocked by the valve 30, and, at the same time, liquid flow from the input 26 to the inlet 18 or the inlet 20 is allowed. More specifically, for example, while the valve 30 moves from the bottom of the cut-out 38 to the top of the cut-out 38, the output 46 is closed before the connection 44 is opened. As a result, liquid does not flow to both of the inlets 18 and 20 simultaneously so that the pressure of liquid is maintained while liquid flow is changed between the inlets 18 and 20 by the valve 30 (*see, e.g.*, Publication of the Specification, in Figure 1 and in paragraphs [0026] -[0030]). Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 15 require, in part, “the single moving member is operable to block liquid flow to one of the two inlets while allowing liquid flow through another of the two inlets such that the single moving member prevents simultaneous liquid flow through the two inlets.”

In contrast, Kwok fails to show or suggest at least the above limitation. In fact, Kwok shows that the movable valve 30 allows simultaneous liquid flow from the inlet channel 14 to the two outlet channels 26 and 28.

Specifically, Figure 4 of Kwok shows the valve 30 moving between the outlet channels 26 and 28 (*see* Kwok, column 2, lines 7-9 and Figure 4). Thus, it would be clear for a skilled artisan that, at least, when the valve 30 is positioned between the outlet channels 26 and 28 as shown in Figure 4 of Kwok, liquid in the valve chamber 16 simultaneously flows through the two outlet channels 26 and 28. Accordingly, Kwok fails to show or suggest at least the feature, “the single

moving member is operable to block liquid flow to one of the two inlets while allowing liquid flow through another of the two inlets such that the single moving member prevents simultaneous liquid flow through the two inlets,” as required by amended independent claims 1 and 15.

Further, as acknowledged by the Examiner, Murawa fails to show or suggest the single moving member operable to block liquid flow to one of the two inlets while allowing liquid flow through another of the two inlets (*see* Office Action dated January 29, 2008). As explained in the previous response dated November 6, 2007, Murawa merely teaches that each moving member 116a and 116b controls liquid flow through only one inlet. Accordingly, Murawa also fails to show or suggest at least the feature as required by amended independent claims 1 and 15.

In view of above, Kwok and Murawa, whether taken separately or in combination, fail to show or suggest the invention as recited in amended independent claims 1 and 15. Thus, amended independent claims 1 and 15 are patentable over Kwok and Murawa. Dependent claims are allowable for at least same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 8-10 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Murawa in view of Kwok, further in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0234303 (“Berning”). Claim 11 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Murawa in view of Kwok, further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,082,636 (“Yoshida”).

As discussed above, Murawa and Kwok, whether taken separately or in combination, do not show or suggest at least the above limitation of amended independent claim 1. Berning and

Yoshida, like Murawa and Kwok, do not show or suggest at least the above limitation. Further, Berning and Yoshida fail to show or suggest that which Murawa and Kwok lack. This is evidenced by the fact that Berning and Yoshida are relied on as merely disclosing the details such as a nozzle insert having whirl chambers or a breakaway edge (*see* Office Action dated January 29, 2008, at pages 4-6).

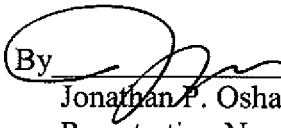
In view of above, Murawa, Kwok, Berning, and Yoshida, whether taken separately or in combination, fail to show or suggest the invention as recited in amended independent claim 1. Thus, amended independent claim 1 is patentable over Murawa, Kwok, Berning, and Yoshida. Claims 8-11 and 14, directly or indirectly dependent from amended independent claim 1, are allowable for at least same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 17102/012001).

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Respectfully submitted,

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